

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 EB-07 SS-15 SP-02

NSC-05 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 IO-13 /080 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0000

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MAPUTO 0450

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MZ, SF, WA

SUBJEVT: AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MACHEL

SUMMARY. PRESIDENT MACHEL REQUESTED HALF-HOUR MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR MORNING APRIL 24. EMBASSY NOT SURE WHY. AMBASSADOR DELIVERED SECRETARY'S MESSAGE INVITING PRESIDENT TO MEET HIM IN NAIROBI. MACHEL HAD HEARD THROUGH KAUNDA THAT SECRETARY WISHED MEET WITH HIM, SAID HE TOO WOULD LIKE MEET SECRETARY, BUT HIS SCHEDULE, WHICH INCLUDES TRIP EUROPE (WHICH WE SPECULATE MAY BE LONG-POSTPONED TRIP TO RUSSIA) MAKES IT UNLIKELY HE WILL GO NAIROBI. MACHEL IS PLEASED AT GROWING US INTEREST IN AFRICA, WHICH EVIDENCED BY SECRETARY'S TRIP TO AFRICA. MACHEL HOPES USG WILL AVOID PITFALL OF BACKING BANTUSTAN'S, WHICH WILL FAN RACISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND COULD LEAD TO RACIAL WAR. MUCH OF MEETING WAS TAKEN UP WITH DISCUSSION OF US AID OFFER, ON WHICH AMBASSADOR ELEBORATED.

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ALTHOUGH MACHEL DID NOT SAY WHAT HE THOUGHT OF THE OFFER, HE

FOLLOWED DISCUSSION INTENTLY, AND SEEMED IN GENERAL TO BE PLEASED WITH FLEXIBILITY OF OFFER AND OUR WILLINGNESS BE GUIDED BY WISHES GPRM. MACHEL QUERIED AMBASSADOR ABOUT US INVESTMENT AND POSSIBLE AID FOR INDUSTRY. MACHEL GAVE EVERY INDICATION OF WANTING CONTINUE DIALOGUE WITH US, WHICH HE SEEMS TO FIND USEFUL.

1. LATE IN AFTERNOON APRIL 23, SHARUDINE KHAN, DIRECTOR OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE DEPARTMENT IN FOREIGN MINISTRY CALLED EMBASSY TO SAY THAT PRESIDENT MACHEL WISHED SEE AMBASSADOR THIS MORNING, APRIL 24. REASON GIVEN BY FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS THAT THE PRESIDENT REGRETTED HE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO SEE STAFFDEL BATES/HUNTER AND WISHED CONVEY REGRETS TO SENATOR KENNEDY AND STAFFDEL THROUGH ME. FOREIGN MINISTRY SAID THAT OFFICE OF PRESIDENCY HAD BLOCKED OUT HALF HOUR OF PRESIDENT'S TIME FOR THIS MEETING, WHICH STRUCK ME AS ODD IF PRESIDENT WERE MERELY TO CONVEY REGRETS, WHICH COULD ALSO HAVE BEEN DONE THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY. THUS IT WAS WITH SOME CURIOSITY THAT DCM (WHO I HAD ASKED BE INCLUDED SINCE DCM THROUGH MISHAP HAD NOT BEEN PRESENT AT PRESENTATION OF MY CREDENTIALS) AND I ARRIVED AT PALACE FOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT.

2. PRESIDENT GREETED US WARMLY, MOTIONED IMMEDIATELY TO THE COUCH, INDICATING HE WISHED TO TALK. PRESIDENT BEGAN BY ASKING IF I HAD BEEN AT THE STADIUM RALLY FOR PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND, IF SO, WHAT I THOUGHT OF IT. I SAID I HAD BEEN, AND THAT I WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE ENTHUSIASM OF THE CROWD (ESTIMATED AT 60,000) AND THAT THE PEOPLE SEEMED TO BE CAUGHT UP IN SPIRIT OF THE NATIONAL SLOGAN "THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES." (A LUTTA CONTINUA). YES, HE SAID, "WE ARE A YOUNG AND DYNAMIC PEOPLE," THEN ADDING "BUT AT TIMES MY PEOPLE WISH TO MOVE TOO FAST." HE NOTED THAT PROBLEMS OF A NEW NATION ARE MANY, THE TASK OF DEVELOPMENT VERY CHALLENGING, AND MOZAMBIQUE VERY POOR.

3. I SAID THAT US APPRECIATED THE PROBLEMS GPRM FACED DURING ITS FIRST YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE AND THAT WE ADMIRERED THE COURAGE OF ITS GOVERNMENT IN CLOSING ITS BORDER WITH RHODESIA, WHICH IMPOSES EVEN MORE OF AN ECONOMIC BURDEN ON THE COUNTRY. IT FOR THIS REASON, AND BECAUSE WE WISH TO DEMONSTRATE OUR SUPPORT FOR MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA, THAT USG HAD OFFERED TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE.

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4. US AID OFFER: I REMINDED PRESIDENT THAT USG WAS READY TO INITIATE TALKS WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON US ASSISTANCE, TAKING A FEW MINUTES TO OUTLINE FOR THE PRESIDENT OUR REFTEL AID OFFER. I SAID THAT THE USG WAS PREPARED TO OFFER UP TO \$12.5 MILLION IN COMBINATION OF GRANT DOLLARS AND FOOD AID; THAT FOOD AID COULD EITHER BE IN FORM OF LOAN ON CONCESSIONAL TERM, WHICH WOULD GENERATE FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT, OR AS GRANT FOOD AID

IN SUPPORT OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAMS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY IN MOZAMBIQUE OR DIRECTLY TO GPRM FOR SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM OR SELF-HELP WORK PROJECTS. I NOTED THAT A BILATERAL GRANT FOOD PROGRAM WAS COMPLICATED AND IMPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN ON GPRM, BUT THAT IT USUALLY BECAME AN ONGOING PROGRAM.

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5. IN ADDITION ABOVE, I REMINDED THE PRESIDENT, THAT USAID CONTRIBUTES TO THE AFRICAN AMERICAN INSTITUTES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR FORMER PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES IN AFRICA, WHICH PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIP IN US OR AT AFRICAN INSTITUTIONS. I SAID WE HOPED GPRM WOULD DECIDE PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM. I SAID THAT IF GPRM WERE INTERESTED, THE USG WOULD HELP RECRUIT AND PAY SOME OF COSTS OF US PROFESSORS AT UNIVERSITY OF MAPUTO.

6. CONCLUDING, I SAID THAT THIS GAVE THE PRESIDENT A GENERAL IDEA

OF HOW WE THOUGHT WE COULD BE HELPFUL. I SAID WE WERE NOT TRYING TO FORCE OURSELVES UPON GPRM, HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE WHETHER THEY WISHED RECEIVE HELP FROM THE USG. IF IT DID, WE WERE READY EXPLORE MORE FULLY WITH GPRM IN WHAT SPECIFIC AREAS WE MIGHT BE HELPFUL. I SAID THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO CHANNEL
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OUR ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE UN OR BILATERALLY, DEPENDING ON WISHES OF GPRM.I HOPED TALKS COULD COMMENCE SOON SINCE, FOR STATUTORY REASONS,WE WOULD LIKE TO OBLIGATE FUNDS BEFORE JUNE 30.

7. THE PRESIDENT HAD FOLLOWED ME INTENTLY.
WHEN I CONCLUDED HE ASKED WHEN WOULD I BE READY TO TALK. I SAID AT ONCE. HE SAID THAT SOMEONE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH ME SHORTLY, POSSIBLY NEXT WEEK.

8. US PRIVATE INVESTMENT:
THE PRESIDENT THEN ASKED "WHAT ABOUT INDUSTRY?" I SAID THAT ON BASIS ON OUR EXPERIENCE, THIS WAS A SECTOR WE FELT WAS BEST LEFT TO PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. I SAID THAT I WAS AWARE THAT HE MIGHT HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT PRIVATE INVESTMENT. NONETHELESS, A GOOD

MANY NATIONS HAVE FOUND THAT IT WAS IN THEIR INTEREST TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE INVESTMENT OR TO ENTER INTO JOINT ARRANGMENTS WITH PRIVATE FIRMS. THAT COULD BE THE CASE IN MOZAMBIQUE TOO.

9. MACHEL WONDERED WHAT THE ATTITUDE OF US INVESTORS WOULD BE TOWARDS INVESTMENT IN MOZAMBIQUE. I SAID THAT I WAS NOT SURE, SINCE I HAD NOT TALKED TO ANY US INVESTORS INTERESTED IN MOZAMBIQUE, BUT I THOUGHT US INVESTORS WOULD WANT TO WAIT UNTIL HIS GOVERNMENT HAD ANNOUNCED WHAT ITS POLICY WOULD BE WITH RESPECT TO PRIVATE INVESTMENT. MACHEL NODDED IN AGREEMENT, SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD SO MANY THINGS TO DO IT HAD NOT GOTTEN AROUND TO CONSIDERING WHAT ITS POLICY SHOULD BE. "WE'LL HAVE TO GET ON TO THAT."

10.MACHEL ASKED IF IT WAS TRUE THAT GULF OIL WAS INTERESTED IN PETROLEUM OR GAS IN MOZAMBIQUE. IF SO, I SAID, I HAD NOT HEARD ABOUT IT. DCM CARSON THEN NOTED THAT US STEEL AND BETHLEHEM STEEL HAD SOME TIME BACK EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN MINERAL DEPOSITS (IRON ORE AND FLUORITE) BUT THAT WE KNEW OF NO CURRENT US INTEREST IN GAS OR OIL IN MOZAMBIQUE

11. SECRETARY'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT MACHEL: THE AMBASSADOR PRESENTED PRESIDENT MACHEL WITH THE SECRETARY'S LETTER AND EXPLAINED THAT THE SECRETARY HAD HOPED TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO VISIT MOZAMBIQUE
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AND TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT MACHEL ON HIS CURRENT TRIP, BUT, THAT SECRETARY'S TIGHT SCHEDULE HAD MADE A STOP IN MOZAMBIQUE IMPOSSIBLE. AMBASSADOR ADDED THAT HE KNEW FROM HIS WORK IN WASHINGTON THAT SECRETARY WAS VERY INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING CURRENT SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WITH PRESIDENT.

IN THE EVENT PRESIDENT MACHEL PLANNED TO HEAD HIS COUNTRY'S DELEGATION TO UNCTAD IV IN NAIROBI, THE SECRETARY WELCOMED THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH HIM THERE. PRESIDENT MACHEL INTERRUPTED AND SAID THAT PRESIDENT KAUNDA (WHO IS CURRENTLY ON A STATE VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE) HAD INFORMED HIM OF THE SECRETARY'S EFFORTS TO ARRANGE A MEETING WITH HIM AND OF THE SECRETARY'S PLANS TO GIVE A MAJOR POLICY SPEECH IN LUSAKA NEXT WEEK. PRESIDENT SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET SECRETARY, BUT BE DOUBTED HE WOULD ATTEND UNCTAD MEETING IN NAIROBI AND THAT HIS SCHEDULE WAS "VERY TIGHT". IN THE COMING WEEKS, HE PLANNED TO VISIT KING SOBHUZA IN SWAZILAND, PRESIDENT NYERERE IN TANZANIA AND TO MAKE A TRIP TO EUROPE. (COMMENT: MACHEL'S EUROPEAN TRIP MAY BE HIS LONG

DELAYED STATE VISIT TO THE USSR. AMBASSADOR AND DCM NOTICED RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR LEAVING MACHEL'S OFFICE PRIOR TO THEIR MEETING PRESIDENT)

12. SOUTH AFRICA; TURNING TO EVENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, MACHEL SAID THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL CHANGE AND THAT PRIME MINISTER VORSTER WILL MAKE ACCOMMODATIONS TO GROWING BLACK ASPIRATIONS AND DESIRES. HE THEN SAID: "VORSTER IS NOT STUPID AND BLIND." CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA WOULD ACCELERATE AFTER ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA HAD BECOME INDEPENDENT. (COMMENT: MACHEL DID NOT INDICATE THAT THE CHANGE HE SPOKE OF WOULD BE BROUGHT ABOUT VIOLENTLY. HE IMPLIED THAT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE BY THE PEOPLES OF NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE, WITH ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER AFRICAN STATES, WOULD HAVE PROFOUND PSYCHOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES ON THE PACE OF DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF.)

13. NAMIBIA: PRESIDENT MACHEL SAID US SHOULD NOT SUPPORT SAG'S POSITION IN NAMIBIA. HE SAID THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS SOWING SEEDS OF DIVISION IN NAMIBIA BY CREATING BANTUSTANS AND INSTALLING TRIBAL CHIEFS AS GOVERNMENT LEADERS. IN THE END, SOUTH AFRICA WOULD COME TO REGRET THIS POLICY. HE CLAIMED THAT HISTORY HAD DEMONSTRATED THAT SEEDS OF ARMED REBELLION FREQUENTLY TOOK ROOT IN THESE ARTIFICIALLY CREATED POLITICAL

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AREAS. IN ADDITION, BY CREATING SEPARATE BLACK AND WHITE COMMUNITIES, SOUTH AFRICANS WERE ONLY CREATING CONDITIONS FOR RACIAL STRIFE. LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WOULD IDENTIFY EUROPEANS IN NAMIBIA

AS THEIR ENEMIES BECAUSE OF THIS. PRESIDENT MACHEL SAID HE DID NOT WANT THIS TO OCCUR AND URGED US TO DISCOURAGE SAG FROM CREATING BANTUSTANS AND IMPOSING LEADERSHIP OF TRIBAL CHIEFS ON THE PEOPLE. AMBASSADOR TOOK OCCASION TO SUMMARIZE OUR NAMIBIAN POLICY AND TO STRESS THAT THE USG SUPPORTS FREE ELECTIONS IN NAMIBIAN, UNDER AUSPICES OF UN AND, WITH THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF ALL POLITICAL GROUPS, INCLUDING SWAPO.

14. ROLE FOR US: MACHEL SAID THAT US HAS IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE SHOULD IDENTIFY OURSELVES WITH JUST CAUSE OF MAJORITY RULE AND RACIAL EQUALITY. WE SHOULD MAKE CLEAR WE WILL NOT

SUPPORT THOSE WHO RESIST CHANGE. I SAID THAT US WAS CLEARLY ON RECORD AS FAVORING MAJORITY RULE AND RACIAL EQUALITY THROUGHOUT ALL OF AFRICA: AT SAME TIME, WE BELIEVE THWT THE PROBLEMS OF AFRICA ARE BEST RESOLVED BY AFRICANS THEMSELVES, THAT IT IS NOT IN THE INTEREST OF AFRICA IF OUTSIDE POWERS INTERFERRE IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS. THE USG DOES NOT WISH TO SEE THE CONTINENT BECOME AN ARENA FOR BIG POWER COMPETITION. WE SURE NEITHER DO THE AFRICANS, MACHEL OBSERVED THAT I MUST BE TALKING ABOUT THE SOVIETS, WHICH I SAID I WAS AND THE CUBANS AS WELL, BUT MACHEL BEGAN TO LOOK AT HIS WATCH AND I TOOK IT THAT HE WANTED TO TERMINATE THE MEETING, WHICH ALREADY HAD RUN OVER A HALF HOUR.
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